

# CINE TIROL FILM COMMISSION GUIDELINES

## 1. General information and mission

The Cine Tirol Film Commission (hereafter, Cine Tirol) was born out of a joint initiative by the Tirol Tourist Board (Tirol Werbung) and the State Government of the Tirol. Since its founding in 1998, Cine Tirol has acted as an entity of the Tirol Tourist Board (Tirol Werbung GmbH).

Cine Tirol provides services and information to domestic and international film makers who are interested in creating audiovisual products in the Tirol, especially theatrical movies and TV productions as well as Video-on-Demand-productions. Cine Tirol considers itself as a coordinating agency as well as a professional partner in bringing promising film projects to reality. Cine Tirol lends support to film makers by actively navigating public and private entities utilizing long-standing industry relationships, knowledge of the territory, and close ties to regional tourist offices and other partners.

Cine Tirol aims to position the Tirol as the leading film location in the Alps and to attract a meaningful variety of domestic and international film projects. Services are designed to support and develop the location Tirol, to promote the Tirol as film location to the international film industry, for example at international film festivals and significant industry events, and also to enable smooth and hassle-free productions. Cine Tirol strives to maximize overall production quality and to increase capacity in the domestic film industry, especially in the Tirol. Moreover, activities are intended to further the audiovisual production industry in a culturally diverse European landscape.

- **Cine Tirol Location Service:** A free service available to all film makers which includes information and assistance, especially in finding the perfect locations in the Tirol.
- **Cine Tirol Production Incentive:** Non-repayable production grants are available to selected film projects. Main grant criteria include the economic effect of the production

on the region ('Tirol Effect') and the thematic relation of the production to the region ('Tirol Reference').

Cine Tirol is member of the AFCI (Association of Film Commissioners International), founding member of the EUFCN (European Film Commission Network) and founding member of the AFC&F (AUSTRIAN Film Commissions & Funds).

Cine Tirol welcomes and supports the **Code of Ethics** of the Austrian Film Institute.

## 2. Services

### 2.1. Cine Tirol Location Service

The Cine Tirol Location Service is available at no cost to all film makers and includes information and practical assistance, especially when it comes to finding the perfect film location in the Tirol.

The Cine Tirol website ([www.cine.tirol](http://www.cine.tirol)) presents an overview of the infrastructure of the Tirol and an updated roster of local industry contacts and service providers.

Cine Tirol also offers information about how and where to obtain film permits but does not get actively involved in the permission process, the shooting program, or in any other third party arrangements.

The basic support in finding the perfect Tirol location is to check the extensive online **Cine Tirol Location Archive**. Furthermore location scouting trips in cooperation with experienced Cine Tirol Location Scouts can be arranged for selected projects, after detailed discussions with decision makers of the production company.

If needed, Cine Tirol assumes the role of an intermediary between film makers, local authorities, and location providers. Cine Tirol's neutral position is backed by a network of partners who all work together to facilitate positive solutions that are agreeable to all parties involved.

### 2.2. Cine Tirol Production Incentive

Cine Tirol also offers a Cine Tirol Production Incentive in form of a non-repayable production grant. Production grants are awarded to selected film projects after application review and are subject to budgetary constraints.

#### 2.2.1. Eligibility Information

Only experienced producers (creatively and economically) are qualified to apply for a Cine Tirol Production Grant.

The Cine Tirol Production Incentive can be granted for the production of feature films, series and serials of all genres for exploitation in cinema, TV and Video-on-Demand platforms. Not eligible are short, industrial, commercial, corporate, news, music productions and videos, photo shootings, game-, reality- and entertainment-shows as well as any productions in violation of Austrian laws or the Austrian Constitution.

Production grants are contingent upon the economic effect of the production on the region ('Tirol Effect'; see Appendix, Expenditures Eligible for the 'Tirol Effect') and/or the thematic relation of the production to the region ('Tirol Reference').

The 'Tirol Effect' is fulfilled when the filming of the entire production, or parts thereof, in the Tirol generates income for the region, for example, in the form of general expenditures (accommodations, food, rental fees, transportation, small industry expenses, etc.) and in the form of domestic film industry expenditures (salaries for local talent and crew, technical equipment, support staff, etc.). For more information, see Appendix, Expenditures Eligible for the 'Tirol Effect'.

The 'Tirol Reference' is fulfilled when the Tirol is clearly identifiable as the location in the film and/or when the film contains significant aspects of Tirol's history, culture, or landscape.

Moreover, the production quality and international marketability of the film project will be taken into consideration.

Film projects supported by Cine Tirol in accordance with these funding guidelines must be of a quality and marketability that adhere to industry standards.

The award and award amount of all Cine Tirol Production Grants are subject to budgetary constraints.

Eighty percent or more of the total funding for the entire film project has to be documented upon application for a Cine Tirol Production Grant.

The total amount of public funding for the entire film project cannot exceed 50% of the total film budget (or 80% in case of difficult or low budget productions).

Cost projections have to be economic and within industry standards.

No legal claims for Cine Tirol Production Grant exist.

### **2.2.2. Application and Submission Information**

Cine Tirol Production Grant applications have to be made in before filming begins. Every applicant is required to get in touch with a Cine Tirol representative personally, by phone or virtually (e.g. MS Teams, Zoom, Skype) for an initial consultation at least 4 weeks before the application is submitted.

The **Cine Tirol Submission Tool** has to be used for applications. After the completed digital submission, the generated ZIP file including all attachments must be printed once, signed by the applicant and sent to Cine Tirol. Submissions are possible in German or English.

#### **Applications include most importantly:**

- Total budget for the entire production
- Itemized budget for projected expenses eligible for the 'Tirol Effect'
- Film script including copyright verification, synopsis and summary brief (approx. 3 lines)
- List of key players and tentative cast
- Production financing plan and documentation of binding agreements
- Sales and marketing plan

Applications can be filed year round; decisions will be made by the executive board of the Tirol Tourist Board (Tirol Werbung GmbH) upon recommendations from Cine Tirol. Applicants will be informed of decisions in writing as swiftly as possible. Rejections do not have to be commented.

### **2.2.3. Production Grant Administration Information**

In case a Cine Tirol Production Grant is awarded, a contract between the Tirol Tourist Board (Tirol Werbung GmbH) and the producer will be established. Without a contract no legal claims for production grant money can be made. Advances on production grants are not permitted, no exceptions made.

Production grant payments are made in three installments and are contingent on the documented progress of the project:

- Start of filming in Tirol (30 %)
- Documentation of actual 'Tirol Effect' expenditures paid and presentation of a complete list of image motifs including (up to) 10 motifs researched in detail after completion of filming in Tirol (50 %)
- Within six months after completion of the production and film premiere/first broadcast of the project and fulfillment of all obligations to Cine Tirol (20 %)

Deviating contractual arrangements may also be made with regard to the scheduling of the third instalment.

The applicant agrees to produce the project as described in the application. Any significant changes have to be made in agreement with Cine Tirol.

Production grant awards expire if the project has not been fully financed within six months after the initial production grant award notification. Production grant awards also expire if filming has not commenced within twelve months after the initial production grant award notification. In both cases, no reminders of impending deadlines from Cine Tirol are required. Cine Tirol may extend deadlines based on reasonable explanations in written form.

The applicant is obligated to repay any and all disbursements of the production grant in case of significant violations of the aforementioned guidelines and conditions.

In case the 'Tirol Effect' expenditures do not reach the amounts proposed in the application, awarded production grant amounts will be proportionally cut. In case the 'Tirol Effect' expenditures exceed the amounts proposed in the application, no claims to increased production grant amounts are permitted.

Notwithstanding the other provisions of the guidelines, payments owing to and claims held by the Grant Recipient shall expire if they are not requested (after the fulfillment of all obligations of the Grant Recipient toward Cine Tirol) within three years after the grant agreement takes legal effect; such claims cannot be asserted in courts of law, in out-of-court proceedings, or by way of offsetting charges.

The applicant has to submit the film as a file via download link or USB3.x data stick in the format of FullHD (1080p) as MP4, data rate at least 10MBit/s of the completed film to Cine Tirol free-of-charge for archival purposes.

The Cine Tirol Funding Guidelines stated in this document are integral to any agreements concerning production funding disbursed by Cine Tirol.

Cine Tirol reserves the right to grant exceptions to stated conditions and funding guidelines.

### 3. Green Filming Tirol

Tirol offers great, diverse and easily accessible film locations in (high) alpine surroundings – mountains, glaciers, lakes, forests, but also examples of traditional and modern architecture from mountain farms to castles, chalets and cable car stations. In addition to the four seasons, five glacier areas allow winter filming outside the winter season. **We ask you to protect the unique Tyrolean landscapes by a responsible approach in your film production!**

The film industry already has a wide variety of sustainable approaches that can affect the entire production chain. The CO<sub>2</sub> footprint can already be reduced by avoiding unnecessary transport, efficient waste management and the use of recyclable materials, e.g. for stage construction. Green Filming is therefore clearly more than just a trend!

Cine Tirol has therefore been involved in the subject of green filming for several years, and we have been able to gain experience and knowledge through events and green trainings as well as through exchanges with colleagues in the film industry, in particular with our colleagues from the Lower Austrian Film Commission – LAFC. The LAFC presented Austria's first "Green Guide" with its extremely remarkable, exemplary and future-oriented initiative **EVERGREEN PRISMA**. In addition to further training offers for professional filmmakers to become Green Consultants and the transfer of knowledge for young professionals and film institutions, the Green Guide serves the film industry as a digital interface to the versatile and comprehensive sustainable knowledge spectrum.

**GREEN FILMING TIROL** aims to provide filmmakers with the best possible information to enable them to realise their film projects in Tirol under sustainable aspects. For example, under the heading **Marketplace Tirol** you will find a list of Tyrolean companies that can be of service to a film production. The categories range from travel, transport & mobility, accommodation & hotels and food & catering to set design, costume design, make-up and production.

The LAFC's **film-specific CO2 calculator** can be used to calculate the ecological footprint of each individual department of a film and TV production. The relevant CO2 values refer to Austrian calculation factors in order to be able to achieve accurate results that are representative for filming in Austria.

The **Austrian Ecolabel for Green Producing** issued by the Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology gives film producers the opportunity to have the production process of their film production awarded the Austrian Eco-label.

#### **4. Effective Dates**

The Cine Tirol Funding Guidelines stated in this document will be effective starting January 1st, 2022, and replace all previously established Cine Tirol Funding Guidelines.

## 5. Appendix

Expenditures are considered to have a significant economic effect on the Tirol ('Tirol Effect') when they have been incurred during filming in the Tirol and are taxable in the Tirol. 'Tirol Effect' expenditures have to be invoiced by a company or person whose main residence is in the Tirol and who is a taxpayer in the Tirol.

### **Eligible ,Tirol Effect' Expenditures:**

- Production-related expenses, such as film permits, location fees, props, costumes, technical equipment, accommodations, per diem fees (100% of the amount paid), travel, transportation, film and sound materials, post production, insurance, other general expenses.
- Salaries and wages (gross amounts) for domestic film industry professionals with documentation of main residence in the Tirol (a copy of the 'Meldezettel' registration slip). Secondary labor costs can only be considered for Tirol residents registered with the 'Tiroler Gebietskrankenkasse' State Health Insurance.
- Net amounts of invoices from film makers, service providers, and companies taxable in the Tirol are eligible.
- Mileage for film makers who are taxpayers in the Tirol and are vehicle owners. Required documentation: a copy of the 'Meldezettel' registration slip and a copy of the vehicle registration.

### **Non Eligible ,Tirol Effect' Expenditures:**

- Invoices not made out to the applicant or awarded film project or expenses not paid by the applicant are not eligible.
- VAT (value added tax).
- Other administrative fees or general expenses.
- Payments to film makers without main residence in the Tirol through service production companies based in the Tirol.
- Payments of services rendered by companies not registered and taxable in the Tirol though service production companies based in the Tirol.

For the evaluation and acceptance of eligible 'Tirol-Effect' expenditures, copies of invoices including proof of payment have to be submitted.